

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. Soviet Plans for East Germany
2. Soviet Military Re-equipment Program

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1. Soviet ambassador Pushkin reportedly has tried to console the SED by hinting that he is seeking autonomous "Land" status for the German Democratic Republic in a reunited Germany. By having a status similar to that of Bavaria in the old German Reich, East Germany would be able to retain its socialist "advances."¹
2. The following items are believed to be included in the current Soviet re-equipment program for their forces in East Germany: 1,000 new T-54 tanks, 80 new amphibious vehicles for each of two army engineer regiments, over 600 new armored personnel carriers, about 125 new artillery prime movers, 800 new heavy guns of various types, 800 new lighter - and possibly recoilless - anti-tank and anti-aircraft guns, and over 1,000 new trucks. Personnel is being increased by an estimated 25,000 men.²

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Comment: This proposition is apparently designed to make the East German government fit into the coexistence program.

Comment: It is believed that the program will result in modernization as well as increased firepower and mobility of the Soviet units in East Germany. It probably is supposed to achieve a state of preparedness for atomic war, with simultaneous strengthening of conventional weapons.

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